

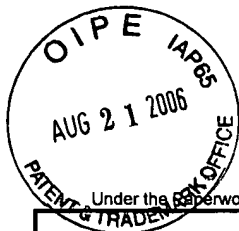
PTO/SB/21 (09-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/051322-Conf. #7967
	Filing Date	January 18, 2002
	First Named Inventor	Frederic P. Field
	Art Unit	3731
	Examiner Name	G. K. Dawson
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	D0188.70166US01

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replacement Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on _____ Remarks The Director is authorized to charge our deposit account no. 23/2825 for any fees not included with this filing.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Receipt Postcard Part B Issue Fee Transmittal Check for \$1400 Comments on Reasons for Allowance

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.		
Signature			
Printed name	Walt Norfleet		
Date	August 21, 2006	Reg. No.	52,078

Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10	
Express Mail Label No. EV744893270 US	Dated: August 21, 2006



PTO/SB/17 (12-04v2)

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Effective on 12/08/2004. Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818). FEE TRANSMITTAL For FY 2005		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/051322
		Filing Date	January 18, 2002
		First Named Inventor	Frederic P. Field
		Examiner Name	G. K. Dawson
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27	Art Unit	3731	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT	(\$) 1400.00	Attorney Docket No.	D0188.70166US01

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please identify): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account	Deposit Account Number: <u>23/2825</u> Deposit Account Name: <u>Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.</u>
For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below	<input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayment of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayments

FEE CALCULATION							
1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES							
	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES		
		Small Entity		Small Entity		Small Entity	
Application Type	Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Fees Paid (\$)
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100	_____
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65	_____
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80	_____
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300	_____
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0	_____
2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES							
						Small Entity	
						Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)
Fee Description							
Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)						50	25
Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)						200	100
Multiple dependent claims						360	180
Total Claims		Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)	Multiple Dependent Claims		
_____ - 20 = _____		x _____	= _____		Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)	
Indep. Claims		Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)			
_____ - 3 = _____		x _____	= _____				
3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE							
If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).							
Total Sheets	Extra Sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof		Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)		
_____ - 100 = _____	/50	_____ (round up to a whole number) x _____		= _____			
4. OTHER FEE(S)							
Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)							
Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): 1501/							
2501 Part B Issue Fee (Utility)						1400.00	

SUBMITTED BY			
Signature		Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	52,078
Name (Print/Type)	Walt Norfleet	Telephone	(617) 646-8000
		Date	August 21, 2006

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Dated: August 21, 2006



Express Mail Label No.: EV 744893270 US
Date of Deposit: August 21, 2006

Docket No.: D0188.70166US01
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Frederic P. Field et al.
Serial No.: 10/051322
Confirmation No.: 7967
Filed: January 18, 2002
For: SURGICAL SUTURING INSTRUMENT AND METHOD OF USE
Examiner: G. K. Dawson
Art Unit: 3731

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS
FOR ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 CFR §1.104(E)

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

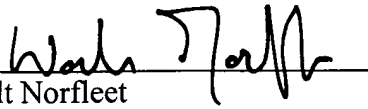
Applicant has received the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance with the May 31, 2006 Notices of Allowance and Allowability regarding the above-identified application. Entry of the Statement into the record should not be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence in the reasoning stated by the Examiner. Each of the claims stands on its own merits and is patentable because of the combination it recites and not because of the presence or absence of any one particular element.

The Examiner's Statement was not prepared by Applicant and only contains the Examiner's possible positions in one or more reasons for allowability. Thus, any interpretation with

respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be imputed to the Applicant.

Dated: August 21, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Walt Norfleet

Registration No.: 52,078

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